

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 3, after line 23, please the following as new paragraphs:

--According to one aspect of the present invention is provided a radio communication apparatus that comprises means for requesting, from a first communication apparatus, an assignment of group identification information to manage a group formed from a part of communication apparatuses in a communication system, and means for inquiring of a second communication apparatus whether the latter apparatus participates in group communication using the group identification information assigned by the first communication apparatus in response to the request by the requesting means. Also provided are communicating means for performing the group communication in the group with the second communication apparatus on the basis of the group identification information, in accordance with a response from the second communication apparatus in response to the inquiry by the inquiring means.

Another aspect of the invention is a method of performing radio communication, by a radio communication apparatus, comprising requesting from a first communication apparatus, group identification information to manage a group formed from a part of the communication apparatuses in a communication system. Inquiry is made of a second communication apparatus as to whether the latter apparatus participates in group communication using the group identification information assigned by the first communication apparatus in response to the request in the requesting step. Group communication in the group with the second communication apparatus is performed on the basis of the group identification information, in accordance with response from the second communication apparatus to the inquiry in the inquiring step.

Another aspect of the invention is a program product that executes such method.

According to another aspect of the present invention is provided a radio communication apparatus that comprises a requesting unit, adapted to request, from a first communication apparatus, an assignment of group identification information to manage a group formed from a part of communication apparatuses in a communication system. The apparatus also comprises an inquiring unit, adapted to inquire of a second communication apparatus whether the second communication apparatus participates in group communication using the group identification information assigned by the first communication apparatus in response to the request by the requesting unit, and an informing unit, adapted to inform the second communication apparatus of the group identification information, in accordance with a response from the second communication apparatus.

Another aspect of the invention is a method of performing radio communication by a radio communication apparatus, comprising requesting, from a first communication apparatus, an assignment of group identification information to manage a group formed from a part of communication apparatuses in a communication system. An inquiry is made of a second communication apparatus as to whether the latter apparatus participates in group communication using the group identification information assigned by the first communication apparatus in response to the request in the requesting step, and the second communication apparatus is informed of the group identification information, in accordance with a response from the second communication apparatus to the inquiry.

Another aspect of the invention is a program product for executing such method.--.